

**WILKINSBURG BOROUGH**  
**Council Planning Session**  
**September 4, 2013**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Cohn called the meeting to order at approximately 6:35 PM in Council Chambers, second floor of the Municipal building, 605 Ross Ave., Wilkinsburg, PA.

President Cohn announced that an executive session was held at 5:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

**ROLL CALL**

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Ervin, Ms. Evans, Ms. Trice, Ms. Moore, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, and President Cohn. Also present was Marla P. Marcinko, Borough Manager. Mayor John Thompson and Ms. Goodman were absent. President Cohn stated that Ms. Goodman will be attending later due to a work obligation. A quorum was established.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Following the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was observed to remember victims of violent crime.

President Cohn thanked the Wilkinsburg Police Department, Commonwealth and other law enforcement agencies responsible for the recent arrests of eighteen individuals for the unlawful distribution of heroin. The drug ring is believed to be linked to recent homicides in Wilkinsburg.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Wilbert Wright – 1315 Clark St.** – Commented that he was not aware of the fee of \$25.00 to obtain a copy of a police report. He suggested that notice of this fee should be posted in the Police Department office. He thanked Ms. Ervin for putting him in touch with the Rebuilding Pittsburgh Program. He will be receiving a new roof and commented that the program can provide assistance with acquiring title to property. Ms. Evans added that the Wilkinsburg Affordable Housing Coalition has been meeting at the WCDC and a housing fair is being sponsored by the Coalition on October 1, 2013.

**Kate Luxemburg – 432 Rebecca Ave.** – She stated that a hearing took place before Judge Hertzberg on the Green Street Park matter. She stated that part of the discussion related to the Borough's intention in not wishing to acquire Green Street Park and purported use of the property as a dog park. Ms. Luxemburg questioned whether the Borough had entered into an agreement with Portnoff Law Associates. Ms. Marcinko stated that the Borough had not yet entered into the agreement. Ms. Luxemburg stated that the reduction of the legal fees for MSF-only delinquencies is not the solution.

President Cohn turned the meeting over to Ms. Evans.

## **CAPITAL PLANNING**

### **1. Update on status of projects and budget.**

Ms. Evans referred Council to the project summary included in the agenda packets and commented that much progress has been made. Park improvements remain to be performed and cost estimates for needed repairs have recently been received. Ms. Marcinko reported on the Police Department renovations which are currently in progress and the projects which were budgeted for 2013 but have not yet been undertaken. Ms. Marcinko would like to move forward with extensive sign replacement and have that work contracted out in order to get it completed in a timely fashion. Council expressed its support. Ms. Evans commented that the parks evaluation is very comprehensive and she requested authorization to move forward with advertising for bids. Ms. Macklin questioned whether the Borough has an inventory of signs prepared by the Borough Engineer and expressed her support in moving that project forward. She also expressed support in moving forward with the purchase of dump trucks for the Department of Public Works. Ms. Moore commented on a big white sign at Greensburg Pike and Graham Boulevard which is unreadable. President Cohn commented that stop signs are not posted in accordance with the Vehicles and Traffic ordinance. Ms. Moore commented that signs are not posted in accordance with State regulations. Ms. Marcinko stated that DPW has been provided the PA DOT Publication for signs and their installation. Ms. Macklin questioned whether the salt is properly covered. Ms. Marcinko stated that Mr. Clark has been provided information on salt storage options. Ms. Ervin questioned whether the new trucks and van had been purchased. Ms. Marcinko stated that the purchase has been made. Ms. Trice commented on the condition of the concrete landing at the front doors to the municipal building. Mr. Lefebvre questioned whether the balance remaining included the costs of those projects which were budgeted in 2013 but not completed. Ms. Marcinko stated that the ending balance did not include those project costs. Mr. Lefebvre commented on the need to look at meter replacement. Ms. Evans agreed and stated the importance in looking at projects which generate revenue.

A motion was made by Mr. Lefebvre, second by Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, to authorize the advertisement for bids for the repairs to the parks and playgrounds.

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Ms. Evans commented on the efforts of the WCDC to obtain funding for a traffic circulation study. The WCDC has budgeted funds toward the \$40,000 study and she will be seeking Council's support for a matching contribution in the 2014 budget. Ms. McCarthy-Johnson asked about refreshing painted lines on Jeanette, Hay, and Biddle streets. Ms. Evans commented on parking on Hay and Biddle streets.

## **GENERAL MATTERS**

- 1. Approving Resolution No. 13-067 – Awarding demolition contract in the amount of \$47,990 – 1328 Mill Street - to Eveready Contracting, Inc.**

**Moved:** Ms. Trice

**Second:** Ms. Moore

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

- 2. Approving Resolution No. 13-068 – Awarding roof repair contract in the amount of \$14,670 to Likar Roofing Company, Inc. – Eastridge Branch Library.**

**Moved:** Ms. Moore

**Second:** Ms. Trice

Ms. Macklin questioned whether the engineer noted any problems when the property was inspected prior to its purchase. Ms. Marcinko stated that only a section of the roof needs to be replaced. Ms. Moore commented that the parking lot is in bad condition. Ms. Marcinko will follow-up.

**Moved:** Ms. Moore

**Second:** Ms. Trice

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

- 3. Approving Resolution No. 13-069 – Approving MOA for Environmental Remediation/Historic Review – Penn Lincoln Hotel.**

**Moved:** Ms. Moore

**Second:** Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

Ms. Macklin questioned whether this agreement addresses the disposition of the Borough's municipal parking lots. Ms. Marcinko stated that the agreement relating to those parcels was approved by Council at the August 7, 2013 meeting.

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

- 4. Approving Resolution No. 13-070 – Sale of Borough-owned property Burns Street – L & B #232 – P-19 to Dee Briggs in consideration of \$200.**

Ms. Ervin asked questioned whether the property had been appraised. Ms. Marcinko stated that the appraised value is \$200.

**Moved:** Mr. Lefebvre

**Second:** Ms. Macklin

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

- 5. Approving Resolution No. 13-071 – Extending offer of employment – Anthony Asciolla – Administrative Assistant Code Enforcement at an annual salary of \$42,500.**

**Moved:** Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

**Second:** Mr. Lefebvre

**Yes:** Ms. Trice, Ms. Moore, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, President Cohn

**Abstain:** Ms. Ervin

**Motion carried 7:0 with 1 Abstention**

- 6. Approving Resolution No. 13-072 – Extending offer of employment – Cindy Bahn – Administrative Assistant to the Borough Manager at an annual salary of \$45,000.**

**Moved:** Mr. Lefebvre

**Second:** Ms. Macklin

**Yes:** Ms. Trice, Ms. Moore, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Evans, President Cohn

**Abstain:** Ms. Ervin

**Motion carried 7:0 with 1 Abstention**

- 7. Approving Resolution No. 13-073 – Reappointing A.B. Carl to the Zoning Hearing Board to continue through December 31, 2013.**

**Moved:** Ms. Trice

**Second:** Ms. Macklin

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

- 8. Approving Resolution No. 13-074 – Appointing Marlee Gallagher to the Shade Tree Committee with a term expiration of December 31, 2015.**

**Moved:** Ms. Moore

**Second:** Mr. Lefebvre

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

- 9. Approving Resolution No. 13-075 – Appointing Jody Guy – Community Art & Civic Design Commission with a term expiration of December 31, 2015.**

**Moved:** Ms. Evans

**Second:** Mr. Lefebvre

Ms. Macklin questioned whether Ms. Guy lives in Wilkinsburg. Ms. Marcinko stated that she does not.

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

Ms. Goodman arrived at approximately 7:19 p.m.

**10. Approving Resolution No. 13-076 – Accepting the resignation of Mark Smith – Zoning Hearing Board.**

**Moved:** Mr. Lefebvre

**Second:** Ms. Macklin

For the record, President Cohn thanked Mr. Smith for his years of service to the Zoning Hearing Board.

**All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.**

**11. Approving Resolution No. 13-077 – Street Closure – WCDC House & Garden Tour.**

**Moved:** Ms. McCarthy-Johnson

**Second:** Mr. Lefebvre

**Yes:** Ms. Moore, Ms. Goodman, Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, Ms. Macklin, Mr. Lefebvre, Ms. Ervin, Ms. Trice, President Cohn

**Abstain:** Ms. Evans

**Motion carried 8:0 with 1 Abstention**

Ms. Trice inquired as to whether the banners had been posted. Ms. Marcinko responded that they had not and the posting will be limited to the 3-week time period.

Ms. Moore commented that heavy equipment remains on site at a property which was demolished some time ago. Ms. Marcinko will follow up with the engineer.

President Cohn announced ALCOSAN's Open House on September 21, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. There will be a guided tour of the treatment plant and laboratory.

President Cohn extended a Happy New Year to all Jewish residents.

Ms. McCarthy-Johnson commented that the Wilkinsburg Tigers football team is expected to do well this year. Ms. Trice stated that the same is expected for basketball.

Ms. Moore inquired as to the status of the KaBOOM project. Ms. Marcinko stated that there was nothing further to report at this time.

Being no further business, on motion by Ms. McCarthy-Johnson, second by Ms. Trice, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25 P.M.

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Jason Cohn, Council President